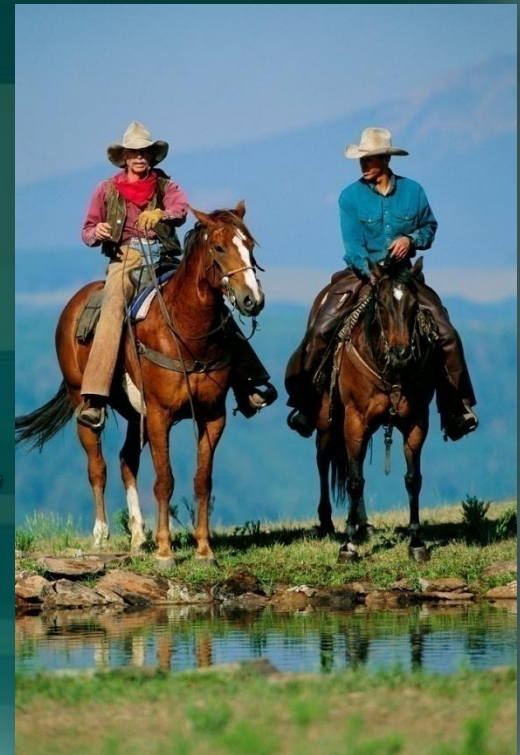


*O. Henry*

*What's in  
a name?*

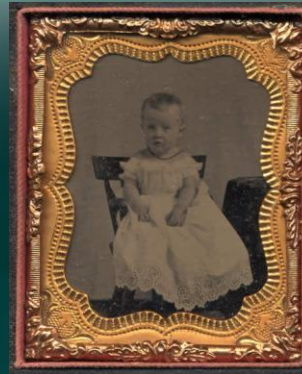


*Origins of  
O. Henry???*



# O. Henry 1862-1910

- Born William Sydney Porter in Greensboro, NC
- Mother and Grandmother died of tuberculosis
- Left school at 15 and trained as a pharmacist in Uncle's store.
- Artistic abilities
- 1882 moved to Texas and lived on cattle ranch
- 1887 married Athol Estes worked in a bank and started newspaper



"It was never intended that I should write novels....I was designed, created, and set going to write short stories, and as long as I stick to that I will have my measure of success...."

# *O. Henry 1862-1910*

- 1896 accused of embezzling funds from bank flees to Central America
- Returns to help ailing wife who dies at age 29 from TB
- 1898 arrested / first short story published while awaiting trial
- 1898 convicted, serves 3 years in Ohio prison (wrote stories)—emerged from prison as “O. Henry” to help shield his true identity.
- 1902 moves to NYC, changes name and becomes the most popular author in the world at the time. His stories are famous for their ironic endings
- 1907 remarries (secretly)
- 1910 dies of alcoholism



Syts is a mining town—drawn to G. Hill.

# Compare and Contrast



- **Early 1900s:** In most married couples, the husband works and the wife stays home. Only one-third of the workforce is women.
- **Today:** Women represent 40 percent of the workforce, and two-income families are common.
- **Early 1900s:** Fewer than half of the families in America (46 percent) own their own homes.
- **Today:** Home ownership extends to 64 percent of all families.
- **Early 1900s:** Average annual income is \$700, with an average work week of 53 hours.
- **Today:** Average annual income is \$31,000, with an average work week of 40 hours.
- **Early 1900s:** Cost for a loaf of bread 8 cents, gallon of milk 14 cents
- **Today:** Cost for a loaf of bread \$1.99, gallon of milk \$3.50
- **Early 1900s:** Life expectancy 50
- **Today:** Life expectancy 77



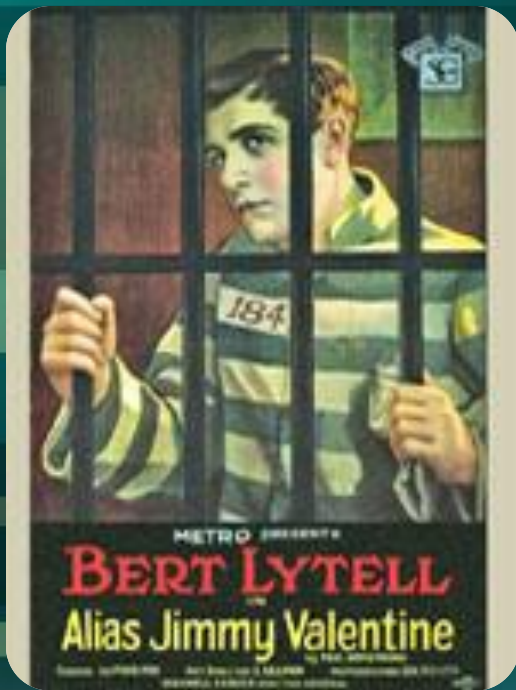
# Pen Name

- **Nom de plume, pseudonym, or literary double**, is a fake name adopted by an author or their publishers to conceal their identity.
- Real name is confusing or unsuitable.
- Mathematician Charles Dodgson, who wrote fantasy novels (Alice in Wonderland) under the pen name Lewis Carroll.
- Some female authors use male pen names, particularly in the 19th century, when writing was a male-dominated profession.
- Purpose: hide the identity of the author
  - Samuel Clemens – Mark Twain
  - Stephen King – Richard Bachman
  - Daniel Handler – Lemony Snicket
  - Mary Evans – George Eliot
  - Emily Bronte' – Ellis Bell
  - Theodore Seuss Geisel – Dr. Seuss
  - William Sydney Porter – O. Henry



# A Retrieved Reformation

- Alias Jimmy Valentine





# *Omniscient Point of View*

- The way a story is told depends on the **point of view**, or one who is telling the story. When a narrator who is not in the story (3<sup>rd</sup> person point of view) knows everything about everybody in a story, including their feelings, their pasts, and their futures, the story is being told from the 3<sup>rd</sup> person **omniscient point of view**. Many of O. Henry's stories are told from 3<sup>rd</sup> person omniscient point of view.
- ***Other common POVs: third-person limited and first-person***

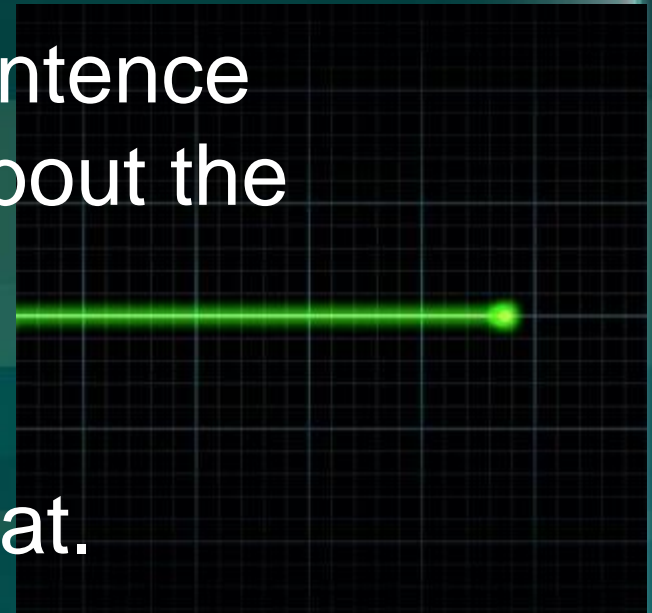


# 4 Character Types:

- Flat
- Round
- Dynamic
- Static

# #1. FLAT Character

- Not well-developed
- Does not have many traits
- Easily defined in a single sentence because we know so little about the character
- Sometimes stereotyped
- Most minor characters are flat.



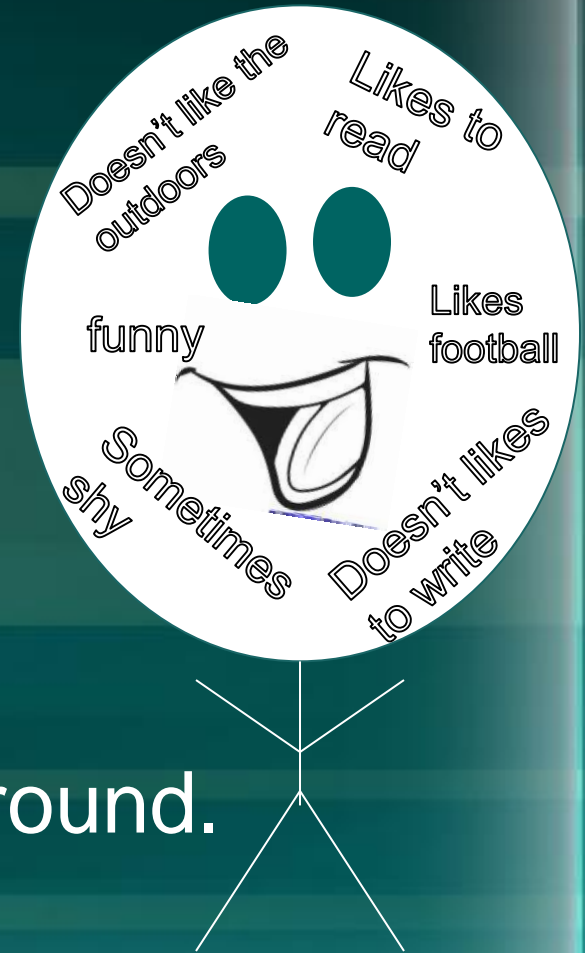
- *Example: an ECCENTRIC person \*W.W. U1P3*

# Examples of FLAT Characters

- **Mr. Krabs** (from “Spongebob”) –is always obsessed with money, and nothing but money.
- **Bruce** (from *Finding Nemo*)– this shark is not around very long, and we don't really understand why he does what he does. His motivations are very simple - when he gets hungry, he tries to eat. Even when he befriends Nemo at the end, Bruce still wants to eat him.

# #2 ROUND Character

- Well-developed
- Has many traits, both good & bad
- Not easily defined because we know many details
- Realistic & life-like
- Most major characters are round.

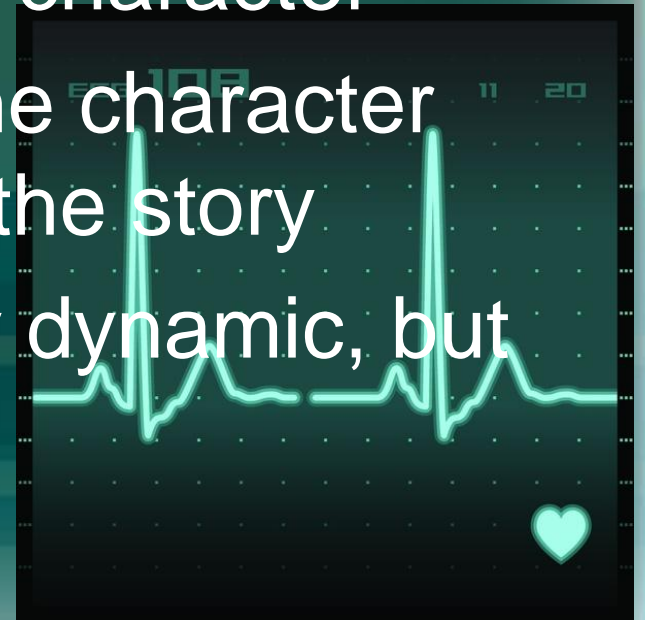


# Examples of **ROUND** Characters

- **Harry Potter**—he's relatable; he's brave but also timid at times like when he's around Cho.
- **Aladdin**—he's realistic; a liar and a thief, but he also has a passionate and sensitive side to him.

# #3. DYNAMIC Characters

- Undergoes an important change in personality throughout the story
- Comes to some sort of realization that permanently changes the character
- A change occurs within the character because of the events of the story
- The protagonist is usually dynamic, but not always.



# Examples of DYNAMIC Characters

- **Grinch**—In the beginning, he is hateful and rude but by the end, his heart has softened and he wants to save Christmas.
- **The Beast**, from *Beauty & the Beast*—In the beginning he is full of bitterness, bad manners and he hates everyone. But in the end, he is a sweet and refined gentleman.

## #4. **STATIC** Characters

- Remains the same throughout the story
- Although something may happen to the character, it does not cause the character to change.
- Minor characters are usually static



# Examples of **STATIC** Characters

- **Cinderella**—In the beginning she's kind, gentle and caring. Even when she becomes a wealthy and popular princess, she maintains her kind, gentle and caring personality.
- **Evil Stepmother**, from "Cinderella"—She is vindictive, greedy and conniving... and in the end, she's still the same.